

From: Joel Krist
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/6/02 3:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To the Department of Justice,

Please uphold the proposed settlement agreed to by the federal government, Microsoft, and the nine states. The proposed settlement is in the best interest of consumers. The states who continue to oppose the settlement are doing so simply to protect the interests of the businesses located within their borders. They are not truly concerned with what's in the "public interest, as the Tunney Act requires.

Microsoft's competitors claim that Microsoft's business practices have stifled innovation and reduced choices for consumers yet they have failed to show that consumers have been harmed. While it's true that the technology agendas offered by Microsoft's competitors face a fierce challenge, sometimes leading to their failure, it's important to remember that the failure of a technology or platform by itself does not necessarily mean consumers lose. Not all technologies or platforms should succeed and it is the marketplace and the consumer who should decide the winners and losers. The proposed settlement offers tough, reasonable remedies while at the same time it avoids destroying the freedom of Microsoft, and its competitors, to innovate.

Sincerely,

Joel Krist